

Listening and Paraphrasing What Is Heard

Grade Level	Sixth
Minimum Time Required	45 Minutes
Materials/Resources	"Listening Survey" Worksheet "My Best Listening" Worksheet"
Subject Area(s)	Guidance

Project Description:

1. The importance of the skill of listening lies in the basic assumption that listening is required for participation in the majority of life's activities. When we think of being deaf for even a minute or an hour, we readily appreciate how important the sense of hearing is. To learn to retell what you hear is equally important for the purpose of communication with others. The discussion will begin with the definition of the term listening, which can be looked up in the dictionary. After analyzing its meaning, write a synthesizing sentence on the board which is appropriate for the grade level being taught.
2. Read the following story to the students:
 "Kenita was busily working on her reading skills assignment. She was making an outline of a paragraph from her social studies book. All of sudden there was a loud thump. A student named Terrell had fainted after receiving his science test. Needless to say, the class was disrupted and the student had to be taken to the hospital for X-rays. Whether Terrell did well or poorly on the test was a mystery to Kenita. She had other things to worry about, namely her outline."
 - a) Ask a student to paraphrase the story and to include the original basic details of the story.
 - b) Have the class evaluate the student's response as compared to the original. If there is a need for clarification, read the story again.
3. List the following skill components on the board:
 - a) Sit in a upright position free from distractions such as pencils and papers on your desk and listen attentively.
 - b) Focus attention on the presentation being given.
 - c) Make a mental outline of what is said for possible retelling or paraphrasing later.
4. Following the skill steps, ask a student to read a short story or poem and paraphrase the story correctly.
5. Select four pairs of students to complete the following activities:
 - a. Students at these grade levels should be able to take four numbers such as 25, 60, 40, and 70, and tell immediately what the sum of the four numbers is equal to. Select about five students to do this activity. The numbers should be given only once verbally. Calculations are to be done mentally, and not on paper.
 - b. The teacher or students will read a short poem. The students should be able to recite this poem exactly from memory.
 - c. The teacher or students will read short articles from the newspaper. The students should be able to paraphrase the article from memory.

- d. After each role-play, reinforce the correct behavior, identify inappropriate behaviors, and reenact the role-play.
 - e. Ask each student to name something they learned during the role-play.
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6. Discuss the necessity for good listening skills and the problems that may occur when it is not employed.
 - a. Lack of knowledge.
 - b. Danger to an individual: not being attentive
 - c. Poor academic work.
 - d. Inability to participate fully in some activity.
 7. Distribute copies of the following two activity sheets to the class. The first, entitled "Listening Survey", asks each student to rate how well he/she listens in various situations. This one should be completed first. The second, entitled "My Best Listening", asks the student to describe his/his best listening habit or activity.
 8. Ask the students will watch a television show at home and will paraphrase the plot to the class. The class will evaluate the report and give suggestions for improvement.
 9. Tell the students that being able to listen well is one key to success in school and in the future. Periodically, ask students to tell what they learned that day in school that required listening skills.

Career Development Standard	Skills to interact positively with others.
Career Development Indicator	Demonstrate effective social skills.
Delivery Level	Review
Academic Standards	
Language Arts	2.4.a Write to clarify what is known about various topics. 2.4.b Write to synthesize, interpret, and use new information. 3.3.c Use various organizing strategies to recall oral/visual information.
Employability/SCANS Skills	Basic Skills
Assessment/Rubric	Completed student survey and listening worksheets.

Submitted by: Social Skills Lessons and Activities for Grades 4-6
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Listening Survey

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: In order to see how well (or how poorly) you listen, complete the following survey. You will rate yourself on each statement as to how well or how poorly you listen using a number scale from 1 to 5.

Scale

- 1 means "I don't listen at all."
- 2 means "I listen once in awhile."
- 3 means "I sometimes listen."
- 4 means "I listen most of the time."
- 5 means "I listen all of the time"

Circle the number for each sentence that you feel best describes how you listen in the situation described.

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|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. I listen to my parents. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. I listen to my teacher in class. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. I listen to my teacher outside of class. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. I listen to the gym teacher. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. I listen to people older than myself. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. I listen to people younger than myself. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. I listen to the radio or other music. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. I listen at assemblies or gatherings. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. I listen to the lunchroom workers. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 10. I listen to the school guards. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 11. I listen to my brothers and /or sisters. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 12. I listen for sounds of danger. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

How do you rate as a listener?

My Best Listening

Directions: Now that you have had a chance to think about your listening habits, select ONE of the 12 numbers where you circled the number Scale 5 meaning that you listen all the time. Write a paragraph explaining why.

Draw a picture to accompany the paragraph.

